

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 13958

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR, NI, SW
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S LETTER ON NAMIBIA

REF: (A) LAGOS 13358, (B) STATE 296387

1. IN THE COURSE OF HIS MEETING WITH SENATOR CLARK DECEMBER 10, OBASANJO REFERRED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RECENT LETTER TO HIM ON NAMIBIA AS "VERY DISAPPOINTING." WHEREAS HE DID NOT REFER TO SPECIFIC POINTS IN LETTER THAT HE FOUND UNSATISFACTORY, PRINCIPAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FMG AND US VIEWS ON NAMIBIA CAN BE PRESUMED TO BE THE FOLLOWING:

A. FMG BELIEVES UNITED NATIONS SHOULD CHAIR THE CONFERENCE RATHER THAN MERELY PROVIDE THE AEGIS AND AN OBSERVER.

B. FMG BELIEVES US DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO PRODUCE NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT WITHERED SOME TIME AGO, AND THINKS THE REASON IS THAT WE BELIEVE PUSHING VORSTER ON NAMIBIA MAY JEOPARDIZE OUR EFFORTS GET HIM TO PUSH SMITH ON ZIMBABWE SETTLEMENT. THUS OBASANJO TOLD CLARK HE SUSPECTED A "DEAL" HAD BEEN MADE "TO SACRIFICE NAMIBIA ON THE ALTAR OF ZIMBABWE." (OBASANJO AND GARBA HAVE BEEN TOLD REPEATEDLY BY REINHARDT, SCHAUFLELE, CROSBY AND MYSELF THAT NO DEALS WERE MADE.)

C. FMG SUPPORTS NUJOMA'S PRECONDITION THAT ALL SWAPO PRISONERS BE RELEASED IN ADVANCE OF A CONFERENCE.

D. THE FMG IS NOT PREPARED TO AGREE TO DECEMBER 31, 1978 AS THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE. (NUJOMA ARGUES FOR NINE MONTHS FROM THE
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OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE.)

E. THE FMG BELIEVES THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE BETWEEN -AUTHENTIC NAMIBIANS" ON THE ONE HAND AND "SOUTH AFRICA" ON THE OTHER.

2. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER OBASANJO HAS CARRIED THROUGH ON HIS PROMISE TO CROSBY (REFTEL) TO SEEK NUJOMA'S AGREEMENT TO SUGGESTED GUARANTEE BY SWAPO OF GOOD BEHAVIOR OF DETAINEES ACCUSED OF VIOLENT CRIMES. NOR DO WE KNOW WHETHER OBASA JO HAS TRANSMITTED SECRETARY'S LETTER TO NUJOMA AS PROMISED.
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